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BLASTS MEDIA MYTHS

Bush Calls For CIA Support

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WILLIAMSBURG — George Bush, director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Tuesday called for public understanding and support for the instruments of national intelligence gathering.

In remarks prepared for delivery before a convention of CBS Radio Network Affiliates at the conference here, Bush said damaging myths about U. S. Foreign Intelligence are being perpetuated by sensations in the public media disguised as investigative journalism.

The former ambassador to the United Nations and U. S. representative in Peking told the group of about 500 people that intelligence is "much more than the sometimes romanticized and often misunderstood clandestine work."

He said he realizes "dirty tricks artist" James Bond is "more fascinating than a scholarly analyst of foreign political or economic trends," but in the eight months since he's become head of the CIA, he's never seen anyone remotely resembling the fictional spy.

Yet, Bush noted, at any given lunchtime, the CIA cafeteria might contain enough scholars and scientists to staff a university.

Among the chores Bush said are performed by the CIA are the collection of data about Soviet compliance with strategic arms limitation agreements, strategic balance in the world, nuclear proliferation, international terrorism, world narcotics traffic and economic trends.

"In a world where unimaginable forces of destruction can be unleashed in an armed conflict," Bush said, "our national security increasingly depends on the excellence and accuracy of our knowledge about our adversaries' capabilities and intentions and about the world in general."

The CIA director said public understanding and support will ensure America's peace and security by making sure the nation's intelligence is "second to none in the world."

But, he said, America must safeguard its sources and methods of intelligence, and not be misled by "bandying about in public incomplete or unreliable information."



(Staff Photo By Buddy Norris)

Bush with CBS executive